

Shrewsbury Borough School

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SUPERINTENDENT

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

This past week has once again focused our attention on a senseless, horrific school shooting at a high school in Parkland, Florida. I know that this latest incident concerns us here in Shrewsbury as parents, educators, and community members and I have spoken to many of you about the issue of our students' safety over the past few days. I wanted to let you know that this was also an important focus for the Shrewsbury Board of Education, representatives from the Shrewsbury Borough Council, the Chief of the Shrewsbury Police Department, and the administration at Tuesday evening's Board of Education meeting. We met that evening to discuss concerns that we heard that evening, and also concerns from other members of our school community that we heard over the past several days. I want you to know that we were able to discuss many aspects of our current security planning and preparations, to identify areas that could be improved, and to explore next steps to ensure the safety and security of our students and staff at SBS.

While we do not often draw attention to or publicly explain the measures that are in place to protect SBS during the school day, please know that we plan and practice for a variety of responses to keep everyone here safe. In recent years we have made significant improvements to our security by adding a double-entry security vestibule to our Main Entrance, license reader and background screening upon entry, safety and security cameras, panic buttons throughout the school, and other upgrades to our infrastructure. Our staff is trained annually and we follow an annual schedule of drills to practice important responses to critical events based on best practices and emerging information. We maintain an incredibly close, working relationship with our Shrewsbury Police Department whose rapid response and frequent presence is an important part of our safety and security each day.

Please know that our faculty and staff will be posted at all our entrances during arrival and dismissal and that they are always focused on our security and safety during the school day.

We will continue to make the health, safety, and security of all of our students, staff, and community members our highest priority each and every day.

Sincerely,

Brent A. MacConnell

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